

Chapter 646. Zoning Code--Signs*

*Editor's note--This chapter is derived from Code 1956, §§ 66.101--66.128, 66.201--66.217, 66.301, 66.401--66.415, and from the following ordinances:

Ord. No.	Sec.	Date	Ord. No.	Sec.	Date
16753		1-22-81	17223	1	3-14-85
17062		10-20-83	17414	1	11- 4-86
17098		1-18-84	17511	1	11-12-87
17204		1-15-84			

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

Sec. 646.101. Purpose.

The purpose of this chapter is as follows:

- (a+) To promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the community;
- (b2) To encourage a concern for the visual environment which makes the city a more desirable place to live, work and visit;
- (c3) To identify and promote business and industry in the city;
- (d4) To reduce hazards which may be caused by signs projecting over public rights-of-way;
- (e5) To protect open space and areas characterized by unique environmental, historical and architectural resources;
- (f6) To protect the right of information transmittal;
- (g7) Along advanced speed arteries, to promote the safety, convenience and enjoyment of public travel, to protect the public investment in highway beautification, and to preserve and enhance the natural scenic beauty or the aesthetic features of roadways in scenic and adjacent areas;
- (h8) To reduce the number of nonconforming signs in the city, particularly billboards.
- (i9) To control the quality of materials, construction, electrification and maintenance of all signs;
- (10) ~~To provide for variances from the strict interpretation of this chapter;~~ [This is provided in Chapter 61, Administration and Enforcement, of the Zoning Code and is unnecessary here.]
- (j11) To provide for the administration of this chapter; and,
- (k) 12) To provide penalties for violations of the provisions of this chapter.

(Code 1956, § 66.101; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.102. Definitions.

All words and terms not defined in this chapter which are defined in the Minnesota State Building Code or elsewhere in the zoning code of the City of Saint Paul shall be interpreted as therein defined. Otherwise, for the purposes of this chapter, terms and words not herein defined shall have the meaning customarily assigned to them. Certain words and terms shall be defined as follows.

(Code 1956, § 66.102)

Sec. 646.103. A.

Advanced speed arteries. A limited access freeway or other road upon portions of which speeds of forty-five (45) miles per hour or greater are permitted.

Advertising sign. A sign which directs attention to a business, profession, commodity, service or entertainment which is conducted, sold or manufactured elsewhere than on the premises upon which the sign is placed. It shall be considered as a nonaccessory sign except that an advertising sign on a professional sports facility with permanent seating for more than ten thousand (10,000) spectators shall be considered as accessory. Billboards are a form of advertising sign. Advertising signs located on bus stop shelters, courtesy benches and newsstands are regulated under other chapters and are not subject to the requirements of this chapter.

(Code 1956, § 66.103; C.F. No. 00-686, § 1, 8-23-00; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.104. B.

Billboard. Any advertising sign larger than fifty (50) square feet except an accessory advertising sign at a professional sports facility.

Bulletin board. A sign which permits the posting of announcements regarding religious, civic, philanthropic or neighborhood activities.

Bus stop shelter. Bus stop shelters are regulated under appendix I and are not subject to the requirements of this chapter.

Business sign. A sign which directs attention to a business, profession, commodity, service or entertainment which is conducted, offered, sold or manufactured on the premises upon which the sign is placed. It shall be considered as an accessory sign.

(Code 1956, § 66.104; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.105. C.

Canopy sign. A sign painted, stamped, perforated, stitched or otherwise applied either on an awning or canopy or its valance.

Combination sign. A sign incorporating any combination of the features of freestanding, projecting and roof signs.

Courtesy bench. Courtesy benches are regulated under chapter 315 and are not subject to the requirements of this chapter.

(Code 1956, § 66.105; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 89, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.106. D.

Directional sign. A sign which is used for the regulation of traffic flow into and within a parking lot.

Display surface. The area made available by the sign structure for the purpose of displaying the advertising message.

(Code 1956, § 66.106)

Sec. 646.107. E.

Electric sign. A sign containing electrical wiring, but not including signs illuminated by an exterior light source.

Electronic message sign. A sign which allows for periodic changes in copy or symbols by electronic means.

(Code 1956, § 66.107; Ord. No. 17536, § 1, 2-2-88)

Sec. 646.108. F.

Flashing sign. An illuminated sign on which the illumination is not kept stationary or constant in intensity or color at all times when the sign is in use. An electronic message sign is not considered a flashing sign.

Freestanding sign. A sign which is mounted into the ground or supported by one (1) or more upright poles, columns, or braces placed in or on the ground and not attached to any building.

(Code 1956, § 66.108; Ord. No. 17536, § 2, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 90, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.109. G.

Gross surface display area. The entire area within a single continuous perimeter enclosing the extreme limits of such sign, but in no case passing through or between any element of the sign. The background on which a sign is placed shall be enclosed within the perimeter when the background is an integral part of the sign display surface. When signs are painted on or applied directly to a building, the perimeter shall include all elements of the sign together with the background of a different color than the natural color of the building. The perimeter shall not, however, include supporting framework or bracing when not used as a sign display surface.

(Code 1956, § 66.109; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 91, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.110. H.

(Code 1956, § 66.110)

Sec. 646.111. I.

Identification sign. A sign stating the name of a person, firm or name or description of a use of the premises.

Illuminated sign. A sign upon which artificial light is directed or which has an interior light source.

(Code 1956, § 66.111; Ord. No. 17536, § 3, 2-2-88)

Sec. 646.112. J.

(Code 1956, § 66.112)

Sec. 646.113. K.

(Code 1956, § 66.113)

Sec. 646.114. L.

Lot frontage. The width of a lot measured along the line separating the lot from any street, as defined in Chapter 60. For a lot having frontage on more than one (1) street, the lot frontage for the purposes of this chapter may be determined by using the frontage having the least width plus one-half of the additional lineal feet of lot frontage.

(Code 1956, § 66.114; C.F. No. 99-750, § 13, 9-1-99)

Sec. 646.115. M.

Marquee. A permanent, roofed structure attached to and supported by the building and projecting over a public right-of-way.

(Code 1956, § 66.115)

Sec. 646.116. N.

Newsstand. Newsstands are regulated under chapter 128 and are not subject to the requirements of this chapter.

Nonstructural trim. The molding, battens, caps, nailing strips, latticing, cutouts or letters and walkways which are attached to the sign structure.

(Code 1956, § 66.116; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.117. O.

(Code 1956, § 66.117)

Sec. 646.118. P.

Park. Land owned and maintained by the city that is used primarily for recreational purposes.

Parkway. A street designated as a parkway by Chapter 145 of this Code and also Interstate Highway I-35E between West Seventh Street and Interstate Highway I-94.

Political sign. A temporary sign which displays information pertaining to an upcoming governmental district, city, county, state or national election.

Portable display surface. A display surface temporarily fixed to a sign structure which is regularly moved from structure to structure at periodic intervals.

Portable sign. A sign which is attached to a chassis with wheels or skids or to a metal or wood frame, which is not permanently mounted into the ground.

Projecting sign. A sign other than a wall sign which projects from and is supported by a wall or a building or structure.

(Code 1956, § 66.18; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 4, 5, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, §§ 92, 93, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.119. Q.

(Code 1956, § 66.119)

Sec. 646.120. R.

Real estate development sign. A business sign placed on the premises of a subdivision or other real estate development.

Real estate sign. A temporary sign placed upon a property advertising that particular property for sale, rent or lease, and excluding a cloth, vinyl or banner sign, which are regulated under section 646.2402(m)(3).

Required yard. The space between the public right-of-way and the legal setback line, as defined in Chapter 60.

Right-of-way. The publicly owned land on which medians, roadways, shoulders, slopes, frontage roads, boulevards, sidewalks or on and off ramps are located.

Roof sign. A sign erected upon or above a roof or parapet of a building or structure.

(Code 1956, § 66.120; Ord. No. 17536, § 6, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 94, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.121. S.

Sign. The use of words, numerals, figures, devices, designs or trademarks the purpose of which is to show or advertise a person, firm, profession, business, product or message.

Sign structure. Any structure which supports or is capable of supporting any sign as defined in this chapter. A sign structure may be a single pole; it may not be an integral part of a building.

State building code. The Minnesota State Building Code, as may be amended from time to time, including all amendments thereto made from the date of enactment of the state building code.

Swinging sign. A sign that moves back and forth freely, or sways in the wind.

(Code 1956, § 66.121)

Sec. 646.122. T.

Temporary sign. A sign, flag, banner, pennant or valance constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard or other light materials, with or without frames, which is not permanently secured, intended to be displayed for up to three (3) nonconsecutive times per calendar year, each for a limited period of time only, not to exceed thirty (30) days, or once a year not to exceed ninety (90) days except that such signs may remain in place during the time of the construction of a building, during the time a building is offered for sale, rent or lease, until the closing date of sale, or as otherwise regulated herein. A portable sign shall not be deemed to be a temporary sign.

(Code 1956, § 66.122; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 95, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.123. U.

(Code 1956, § 66.123)

Sec. 646.124. V.

(Code 1956, § 66.124)

Sec. 646.125. W.

Wall sign. A sign attached to or erected against the wall of a building or structure, with the exposed face of sign in a place substantially parallel to the plane of said wall.

(Code 1956, § 66.125)

Sec. 646.126. X.

(Code 1956, § 66.126)

Sec. 646.127. Y.

(Code 1956, § 66.127)

Sec. 646.128. Z.

Zoning district. A district shown on the zoning map of Saint Paul which is incorporated into the zoning code.

(Code 1956, § 66.128)

ARTICLE IV. ~~646.4~~200. ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Sec. ~~66.401~~. Enforcement.

~~The zoning administrator is hereby authorized and directed to enforce all the provisions of this chapter.~~ [This duplicates §61.201 and §64.201, and is unnecessary here.]

(Code 1956, § 66.401)

Sec. ~~646.402~~01. Duties of zoning administrator.

- (a) The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this chapter and any amendment thereto and shall have the power to certify zoning compliance and sign permits, and to make inspections of buildings or premises necessary to carry out his duties in the enforcement of this chapter.
- (b) Whenever necessary to make an inspection to enforce any of the provisions of this chapter, or whenever the zoning administrator or his authorized representative has reasonable cause to believe that there exists any sign or any condition which makes such sign unsafe or violative of this chapter, the zoning administrator or his authorized representative may enter the premises or building on which such sign is located, at all reasonable times, to inspect the sign or to perform any function or duty required of the zoning administrator by this chapter; provided, that if such a building or premises on which the sign is located is occupied, he shall first present proper credentials and demand entry; and if such building or premises is unoccupied, he shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other persons having charge or control of the building or premises and demand entry. If such entry is refused, the zoning administrator or his authorized representative shall have recourse to every remedy provided by law to secure entry.
- (c) No owner or occupant or any other person having charge, care or control of any building or premises shall fail or neglect, after proper demand is made as herein provided, to promptly permit entry therein by the zoning administrator or his authorized representative for the purpose of inspection of signs and those conditions rendering such signs unsafe pursuant to this chapter. Any person violating this paragraph shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.
- (d) The zoning administrator shall not issue any sign permits that do not conform to this chapter. No renewal of an expired permit shall be issued for a use or structure made nonconforming by amendments to this code.
- (e) The zoning administrator shall not grant any variances with respect to this chapter in carrying out his duties as zoning administrator. Variances may be granted by the planning commission. The zoning administrator shall grant a permit upon a finding of compliance with the conditions imposed by this chapter.
- (f) *Billboard inventory and enforcement.* The zoning administrator shall maintain an inventory of billboards in the city. The zoning administrator shall from time to time perform inspections of all billboards in the city and maintain records, which may include photographs, of all billboards. If the zoning administrator determines that the opinion of a structural engineer or other experts are needed, the zoning administrator may hire a consultant. A billboard owner must provide access for inspectors promptly; such access may involve getting to a rooftop through a lessor's building or providing a cherry picker.
- (g) *Billboard fees.* The city shall collect annual billboard fees from their owners. Said fee shall be set by the city council by resolution upon recommendation from the zoning administrator on what amount is adequate to cover the city's costs for staff and contracted services to maintain the billboard inventory and strictly enforce all city regulations for billboards. The fee may be adjusted from year to year to reflect changes in the city's costs.

(Code 1956, § 66.402; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 111, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.202403. Licensing.

- (a) *General.* No person engaging in or seeking to engage in the business of erecting or installing, repairing, maintaining or constructing any sign or sign structure within the limits of the city of Saint Paul shall so operate without a license issued in accordance with the provisions of this section.
- (b) *Procedure.* The zoning administrator, upon a finding that the information on the application indicates that the applicant meets the minimum requirements of applicable laws, and attests to a general knowledge of the city's sign regulations, shall issue a license to the applicant. An applicant who believes he or she is wrongfully denied a license by the zoning administrator may appeal to the city council for a further determination of whether a license should be issued.
- (c) *Place of business.* No license shall be granted under the terms of this section to any person unless that person shall have and maintain a bona fide business address. The license certificate shall be kept at this address at all times, and the zoning administrator shall be notified of any change of **business** location **of this to another** address.
- (d) *Bond requirements.*
 - (1) No license issued under the terms of this section shall become effective until the licensee shall have filed with the zoning administrator a surety bond in the sum of eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00) in favor of the City of Saint Paul and conditioned that the city will be saved harmless from any loss, damage, costs or lawsuits by reason of improper or inadequate work performed by the holder of said license under the provisions of this chapter. Such bond shall be subject to approval as to form, execution and surety. Approved bonds shall remain in force for a period of time equivalent to the period of the license.
 - (2) In lieu of the bond required in (1) above, the licensee may post a compliance bond with the state department of commerce, as set forth in Minn. Statutes 325E.58.
- (e) *Fees.* Any person fulfilling all qualifications and regulations stated herein and upon payment of a fee of one hundred twenty dollars (\$120.00) shall be issued a license under the provisions of this section.
- (f) *Expiration and renewal of licenses:*
 - (1) All licenses shall expire on the last day of the calendar year of issuance unless sooner revoked or forfeited. If a license granted hereunder is not renewed previous to its expiration, then all rights granted by such after the expiration of the license shall be a violation of this chapter.
 - (2) *Renewal.* Licenses may be renewed after the expiration date.
- (g) *Revocation or suspension of licenses:* The city council may suspend or revoke the license of any person licensed under this chapter through the adverse action process upon a finding of a violation of section 310.06, according to hearing procedures as defined in section 310.05.

(Code 1956, § 66.403; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 112, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.203404. Permits.

- (a) *Application.* Applications for sign and/or sign structure permits shall be submitted to the zoning administrator. Each application shall contain the names and addresses of the owners of the display structure and property; the address at which any signs are to be erected; the lot, block and addition at which advertising signs are to be erected and the street on which they are to front; and a complete set of plans showing the necessary elevations, distances, size and details to fully and clearly represent the construction and placing of the display structure. Structural plans are required for all freestanding signs greater than fifty (50) square feet. Permit applications for advertising signs along state trunk highways and interstate highways shall be accompanied by proof that the applicant has obtained a permit from the State of Minnesota for the advertising sign.
- (b) *Consent.* Applications for signs and/or sign structures erected, maintained or used for the public display of posters, painted signs or reading material shall be accompanied by an affidavit of a lease in force or deed indicating the consent of the owners of the property on

which the display structure is to be erected.

(c) *Advertising sign bond:*

- (1) The owner or persons in control of each and every advertising sign maintained within the limits of the City of Saint Paul shall file a bond in the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for each and every advertising sign. The bond shall be conditioned to indemnify and save the City of Saint Paul harmless from all damages, costs and expenses, actions and causes of action that the city may incur or be liable to incur by reason of construction, maintenance or removal of any advertising sign.
- (2) In lieu of the two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) bond required above, the owner may provide a bond covering all advertising owned or in control of any person, firm or corporation which shall be in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00) and shall be filed with the city. This bond shall be conditioned as stated above.
- (3) All bonds shall be kept in force as long as the advertising signs are maintained. If any of the bonds becomes discharged by reason of nonpayment, liability, lapse of time for any reason whatever, the same shall be renewed immediately. If the bonds are not renewed upon demand, the advertising signs for which said bonds were enacted may be summarily removed by the city.

(Code 1956, § 66.404; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 113, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 97-1089, § 11, 10-1-97)

Sec. 646.204405. Exemptions.

The following signs shall not require a permit. These exemptions shall not be construed as relieving the owner of the sign from the responsibility of its erection and maintenance, and its compliance with the provisions of this chapter or any other law or ordinance regulating the same.

- (a+) The changing of the display surface on a painted or printed sign only. However, this exemption shall apply only to poster replacement and/or on-site changes involving sign painting elsewhere than directly on a building.
- (b2) Signs six (6) square feet or less in size.
- (c3) Lettering on motor vehicles when not utilized as a parked or stationary outdoor display sign.
- (d4) Political signs.

(Code 1956, § 66.405; Ord. No. 17524, § 36, 1-6-88)

Sec. 646.205406. Abandoned signs.

Any business sign which advertises, identifies or pertains to an activity no longer in existence shall be removed by the owner of the property within thirty (30) days from the time the activity ceases existence. This provision does not apply to seasonal activities during the regular periods in which they are closed.

(Code 1956, § 66.406)

Sec. 646.206407. Inspection and removal.

- (a) All signs requiring a permit shall be inspected by the zoning administrator. The sign installer shall notify the zoning administrator at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the installation of the sign.
- (b) Footing inspections may be required by the zoning administrator for all signs having footings.
- (c) All signs containing electrical wiring shall be subject to the provisions of the electrical code, and the electrical components used shall bear the label of an approved testing agency.
- (d) The zoning administrator may order the removal of any sign that is not maintained in accordance with provisions of this chapter, provided he has sent a letter specifying the grounds for removal to the permittee giving the latter ten (10) days in which to appear before the zoning administrator to show cause why the sign could not be removed.
- (e) All signs may be reinspected at the discretion of the zoning administrator.

(Code 1956, § 66.407; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 114, 12-14-93)

Sec. 66.408. Appeals.

- (a) ~~Any person affected by the decision of the zoning administrator dealing with the provisions of this chapter may appeal this decision to the planning commission within thirty (30) calendar days of the decision. The commission may not vary any provision contained in the state building code.~~
- (b) ~~If the decision of the zoning administrator is one which is governed by the provisions of the state building code, then an appeal may be taken from that decision in the manner prescribed in the state building code as it applies to the City of Saint Paul.~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.408; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 115, 12-14-93)~~ [Provision for appeals is covered under §61.701, Administrative appeals, of the Zoning Code. For consistency and simplicity, appeals regarding this chapter should be handled as they are for the rest of the Zoning Code.]

Sec. 646.207409. Variances.

~~Applications for~~ The planning commission shall have the authority to grant variances from the strict enforcement of the provisions applications of this chapter shall be filed and reviewed according to the provisions in Chapter 61, Administration and Enforcement. In addition to the requirements for variances in section 61.601, the applicant shall demonstrate that such variance is needed due to for unique signs or unusual conditions pertaining to sign needs for a specific building or lot, provided such signs would not be contrary to the general intent of this chapter, and that the sign would not create a hazard, would not violate Minnesota State Statutes or rules and regulations developed pursuant thereto, would not be objectionable to adjacent property owners, would not adversely affect residential property through excessive glare and lighting, and provided that the signs would be in keeping with the general character of the surrounding area. The commission may not grant a variance that would permit the sign within a zoning district which is not otherwise permitted in that zoning district under the provisions of this chapter.

~~(Code 1956, § 66.409)~~ [For consistency and simplicity, variances pertaining to this chapter should be handled as they are for the rest of the Zoning Code. Deleted text is not needed and/or repeats what is already in §61.601, Variances.]

Sec. 66.410. Interpretation.

The provisions of this chapter shall be held to be minimum requirements adopted for the promotion of the public health, morals, safety, comfort, convenience or general welfare. It is not intended by this chapter to repeal, abrogate, annul or in any way to impair or interfere with any existing provisions of law or ordinance, or with any rules, regulations or permit previously adopted or issued, or which shall be adopted or issued, pursuant to the law relating to the use of buildings or premises; provided, however, that where this chapter imposes a greater restriction than is required by existing ordinance or by rules, regulations or permits, the provisions of this chapter shall control.

~~(Code 1956, § 66.410)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §60.108, Requirements declared minimum, and §60.109, Other city, local, state and federal regulations.]

Sec. 66.411. Vested right.

Nothing in this chapter shall be interpreted or construed to give rise to any permanent vested rights in the continuation of any particular use or any permissible activities therein, and they are hereby declared to be subject to subsequent amendment, change or modification as may be necessary to the preservation or protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

~~(Code 1956, § 66.411)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §60.113, Vested right.]

Sec. 66.412. Violations.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition, the owner or lessee of any building, structure or premises or part thereof, where any condition in violation of this chapter shall exist or shall be created, and who has assisted knowingly in the commission of such violation, shall be guilty of a separate offense, and upon conviction thereof shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

~~(Code 1956, § 66.412)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §61.901, Violations.]

Sec. 66.413. Public nuisance per se.

Any sign which is erected, altered or converted, or any use of premises or land which is begun or changed subsequent to the time of passage of this chapter and in violation of any of the provisions thereof, is hereby declared to be a public nuisance per se, and may be abated by order of any court of competent jurisdiction.

~~(Code 1956, § 66.413)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §61.902, Public nuisance.]

~~Sec. 66.414. Each day a separate offense.~~

~~A separate offense shall be deemed committed upon each day during or when a violation occurs or continues.~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.414)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §61.904, Each day a separate offence.]

~~Sec. 66.415. Rights and remedies are cumulative.~~

~~The rights and remedies provided herein are cumulative and in addition to any other remedies provided by law.~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.415)~~ [This is an unnecessary restatement of §61.905, Rights and remedies are cumulative.]

ARTICLE III. ~~646.300.~~ NONCONFORMING SIGNS

Sec. 646.301. Nonconforming signs Intent.

It is recognized that signs exist within the zoning districts which were lawful before this chapter was enacted, which would be prohibited, regulated or restricted under the terms of this chapter or future amendments. It is the intent of this chapter that nonconforming signs shall not be enlarged upon, expanded or extended, nor be used as grounds for adding other signs or uses prohibited elsewhere in the same district. It is further the intent of this chapter to permit legal nonconforming signs existing on the effective date of this chapter, or amendments thereto, to continue as legal nonconforming signs provided such signs are safe, are maintained so as not to be unsightly, and have not been abandoned or removed subject to the following provisions:

- (a+) No sign shall be enlarged or altered in a way which increases its nonconformity except for temporary extensions on billboards as permitted in paragraph (g7) of this section.
- (b2) Should such sign or sign structure be destroyed by any means to an extent greater than fifty-one (51) percent of its replacement cost, it shall not be reconstructed except in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.
- (c3) Should such sign or sign structure be moved for any reason for any distance whatsoever, it shall thereafter conform to the regulations for the zoning district in which it is located after it is moved.
- (d4) No existing sign devoted to a use not permitted by the zoning code in the zoning district in which it is located shall be enlarged, extended or moved except in changing the sign to a sign permitted in the zoning district in which is it located.
- (e5) When a structure loses its nonconforming status, as set forth in the zoning code, section 62.1062(gf)(7) all signs devoted to the structure shall be removed and all signs painted directly on the structure shall be repainted in a neutral color or a color which will harmonize with the structure.
- (f6) Signs may be repainted, reposted or replaced when there is a change of any nonconforming use as set forth in the zoning code, section 62.1052(cc)(3).
- (g7) Any rectangular billboard may contain extensions, cutouts or top lettering which occupy a total area not in excess of fifteen (15) percent of the area of the basic advertising sign and form an integral part of the design thereof; and provided further, that no such extension, cutout or top lettering may project more than six (6) feet from the top, eighteen (18) inches from either side or fifteen (15) inches from the bottom of the basic rectangular advertising message. The area of an extension, cutout or top lettering shall be deemed to be the area of the smallest rectangle into which such extension, cutout or top lettering will fit. Temporary extensions shall be completely removed not later than ninety (90) days after installation and the total combined period of temporary extensions for a sign face shall not exceed one hundred eighty (180) days per year.

(Code 1956, § 66.301; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.302. Nonconforming signs; exceptions.

Any advertising sign existing as of the date of this section [February 2, 1988] which is located in a zoning district which does not permit advertising signs or which does not conform to the size, height and/or spacing requirements of this chapter may be replaced, relocated or renovated in the manner provided in this section; provided, however, that such activity shall bring the sign into greater compliance with the provisions of this chapter and satisfy the following standards:

- (a) *Advertising signs to be replaced, relocated or renovated on the same zoning lot:*
 - (1) The zoning lot must be within a zoning district in which advertising signs are a permitted use, as specified in section 66.214(a) or (i), or as permitted in a special sign district approved by the city council.

(Code 17536, § 30, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 110, 12-14-93)

ARTICLE HV. 646.2400. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 646.2401. All signs—Permit, zoning district.

No person shall place, erect or maintain a sign, nor shall a lessee or owner permit property under his control to be used for such a sign, which does not conform to the following requirements and without first obtaining the requisite permit for such sign. The following provisions shall apply in all zoning districts, and to all **exterior** signs visible to the general public from a public right-of-way, ~~except those constructed in or visible from the interior of the downtown skyway system.~~ [This is consistent with what needs a building permit and clarifies existing practice.]

- (a1) No sign or sign structure shall be erected or maintained at any location where, by reason of its position, size, shape, content, color or illumination, it may obstruct, impair, obscure, interfere with the view of, or be confused with any traffic-control sign, signal or device, or where it may interfere with, mislead or confuse traffic.
- (b2) No sign or sign structure shall be erected or maintained in such a manner that any portion of its surface or supports will interfere in any way with the free use of any fire escape, exit or standpipe.
- (c3) All signs which are unsafe and/or unsightly shall be repaired or removed. Unsafe signs must be repaired or removed within twenty-four (24) hours after notification. Unsightly signs must be repaired or removed within fifteen (15) days of notification. The term "unsightly" shall mean a condition in which the sign has deteriorated to the point where at least one-fourth of the surface area of the name, identification, description, display, illustration or other symbol is no longer clearly recognizable at a distance of twenty (20) feet; or where paint is peeling, chipping or flaking from the structure surface; or where the sign has developed significant rust, corrosion, rotting or other deterioration in the physical appearance, or is so faded that it is not clearly recognizable at a distance of twenty (20) feet; or where an illuminated electrical sign is no longer in proper working order. Removal, in the case of painted wall signs, shall mean a complete repainting of the background on which the sign was painted, or a sandblasting of the surface to reveal an exterior finish compatible with surrounding surfaces, so that no part of the sign is any longer recognizable.
- (d4) No sign shall be painted directly on or affixed to any tree, rock or utility pole.
- (e5) Lots on which signs are located shall be kept neat, orderly and free of debris.
- (f6) All signs with the display surfaces back-to-back and parallel shall have no more than an eight-foot distance between each surface. All signs with the display surfaces at an angle to one another shall have the angle no greater than thirty-five (35) degrees. Display surfaces shall face in opposite directions and shall be owned by the same permittee.
- (g7) All signs which have their backs visible to public view shall have such backs painted in a neutral color compatible with the background against which they are set.
- (h8) No swinging sign shall be erected; freestanding, or shall be hung or attached to any building or structure.

- (i9) No signs shall be located in, project into or overhang a public right-of-way, except those projecting business signs permitted in business and industrial districts that do not violate Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.27, and signs established by the City of Saint Paul, County of Ramsey, state or federal governments.
- (j10) For parking lot areas, one identification sign not to exceed a total of fifteen (15) square feet in area is permitted per parking lot entrance. An identification sign up to twenty-five (25) square feet in area, however, may be permitted if such sign incorporates the following uniform parking symbol: fifty (50) percent of the total sign area of the parking identification sign must bear thereon a blue rectangle with a white letter "P" in Gothic type face with the letter "P" being not less than fifty (50) percent of the area of the blue rectangle. The remaining portion of the sign incorporating such a parking symbol may be used for other pertinent information. In addition to the one identification sign per parking lot entrance, however, one directional sign not to exceed a total of four (4) square feet is permitted per entrance or exit. Such directional signs may be up to ten (10) square feet in area if they also incorporate the above-prescribed parking symbol. These parking identification and directional signs are in addition to other signs permitted in each zoning district. No sign shall project higher than fifteen (15) feet above grade.
- (k) 11) Illuminated signs are permitted, except that flashing signs are prohibited.
- (l12) Signs of the City of Saint Paul, County of Ramsey, state, and federal governments and subdivisions and agencies thereof which give orientation, direction or traffic-control information shall be permitted in all zoning districts.
- (m) 13) ~~Both sides~~ **Only one side** of a double-faced sign or V-shaped sign shall be used to compute the gross surface display area, display surface area or sign area of a sign.

[When the billboard text changes were approved in November 2000, this section was changed to require both sides of a double-faced sign to be counted as part of the "take-down" provision, whereby a single-faced sign could not be replaced by a double-faced sign. The "take-down" provision was not approved by the City Council, but this change was not removed. Because this section applies to all signs, an inadvertent result is that it reduces the size of back-to-back or V-shaped business and identification signs allowed. This change would restore previous language and, because no new billboards are allowed, would have no impact on billboards.]
- (n) 14) Canopy signs that are parallel to the street shall be regulated as wall signs. Canopy signs that are perpendicular to the street shall be regulated as projecting signs.
- (o) **If a building will contain multiple uses, a comprehensive sign program and a uniform sign theme shall be established. Signs shall be designed with common or compatible sizes, shapes and materials.**
- (p) **Signs attached to buildings shall be positioned so that they are an integral design feature of the building, and to complement and enhance the building's architectural features. Signs shall not obscure or destroy architectural details such as stone arches, glass transom panels, or decorative brickwork.**

(Code 1956, § 66.201; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 7–10, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 96, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 646.2402. Structural design and construction.

- (a) *Building code.* Signs in all zoning districts shall conform to the structural design standards of the state building code.
- (b) *Supports.* The supports for all signs except signs established by the City of Saint Paul, County of Ramsey, state or federal governments, and subdivisions and agencies thereof, shall be placed in or upon private property and shall be securely built, constructed and erected in conformance with the requirements of this chapter.
- (c) *Restrictions on combustible materials.* All signs and sign structures, except freestanding signs, shall have structural members of noncombustible materials.

Combination signs, roof signs, wall signs, projecting signs, canopy signs and signs on marquees shall be constructed of noncombustible materials, except as provided in this subdivision. No combustible materials other than approved plastics shall be used in the construction of electric signs.

- (1) Nonstructural Trim: Nonstructural trim and portable display surfaces may be of wood, metal, approved plastics or any combination thereof.
- (2) Display Surfaces: Display surfaces in all types of signs may be made of wood, metal, plastics or approved materials.

Any section of approved plastics on wall signs shall not exceed a total of two hundred fifty (250) square feet in area.

Sec. 64.403. Clearance and obstruction. ~~(d)—Clearance and obstruction:~~

- (a+) Clearance from High Voltage Power Lines: No sign or part of a sign support structure may interfere with any electric light, power, telephone or telegraph wires or the supports thereof. All signs must be sufficiently clear of high voltage power lines so that signs can be safely erected and maintained. Signs shall be located not less than six (6) feet horizontally or twelve (12) feet vertically from overhead electrical conductors which are energized in excess of seven hundred fifty (750) volts. The term "overhead conductors," as used in this section, means any electrical conductor, either bare or insulated, installed above the ground, except such conductors as are enclosed in iron pipe or other material covering of equal strength.
- (b2) Obstruction of Openings: No sign shall obstruct any openings to such an extent that light or ventilation is reduced to a point below that required by the state building code.
Signs erected within five (5) feet of an opening in an exterior wall in which there are openings within the wall shall be constructed of noncombustible material or approved plastics.

Sec. 64.404. Electric signs. ~~(f)—Electric signs:~~

- (a+) Code Requirements: All electric signs shall meet the requirements set forth in the National Electric Code and the state building code.
- (b2) Face Retainers, etc.: All face retainers shall be of thickness design and construction as to properly support the plastic panels of the sign faces. Frames and retainers shall structurally be continuous around the entire panel or group of panels of the sign face, supporting such plastic panels independently. Panels larger than thirty-two (32) square feet must be either hinged or provided with another suitable access method.
- (c3) Accessibility:
 - (1)a. If doors for access are not locked they shall be fastened by means of screws, bolts, or similar means.
 - (2)b. Ballasts, transformers, lamp, neon tubing, sockets and splices in wireways shall be made accessible in a manner approved by the state building code, through hinged faces or panels designed to slide or raintight doors, without the dismantling of the sign.
 - (3)c. Whenever hinged faces are used, an approved mechanical method shall be provided to hold such face in an open locked position while servicing. All framing and molding for such faces shall be of adequate strength and durability to safely support such face when in either the open or closed position. Accessibility to the interior of the sign shall be made possible without requiring the removal of any of the sign supports after erection.
 - (4)d. All framing and hinging shall be structurally designed and constructed to adequately support each panel or face when such face is used for access. Hinges shall be of nonferrous metal or rust-resistant type.
- (d4) Ventilation: Plastic electric signs shall be vented with either screened or insect-proof louvered vents to prevent the entrance of insects and moisture. The vents shall be placed at the top and bottom of the vertical portions of the exterior sign, and arranged to provide adequate circulation of air over the ballasts. (Exception: Single-faced signs may have the vents located on the back of the sign where the structural design is such that venting on the end is difficult. In such cases, however, these vents shall be located to provide adequate circulation of air over the ballasts and signs vented on the back shall be held a minimum of one-half inch from the surface on which they are erected.)
- (e5) Conductors: Electrical conductors, such as nonmetallic sheathed cable, BX, rubber cords and armoured cable, shall not be used for signs permanently wired. Conductors with a heat- and

moisture-resistant quality of not less than ninety (90) degrees Centigrade, such as AWM type, shall be permitted for secondary connections to ballasts. All primary conductors, except those that are part of the ballast, connecting to and becoming part of a branch circuit shall be of the general purpose type and shall have a minimum moisture- and heat-resistant quality of seventy-five (75) degrees Centigrade, such as a RHW, THWN.

- (f6) Wireway: Wireways shall be kept at least one-half inch from the bottom of a sign, except where the sign spreader is incorporated as a part of the wireway, in which case a method approved by the state building code shall be provided to keep all conductors, ballasts and transformers at least one-half inch from the bottom of the wireway. All conductors shall be protected from sharp edges of sheet metal enclosures. Wire gutters shall be assembled and jointed together in an approved manner. Where one gutter is joined to another creating one continuous wireway, the adjoining ends shall be rounded and connected together in an approved manner. Approved bushings shall be used where conductors pass through a sheet metal divider. Covers of the wireway shall be "broken" over the upper sides or tops of the wire gutters so as to prevent the entrance of moisture. All screws for such covers shall be accessible from the open face or access doors of the sign.
- (g7) Ballast:
 - (1)a. Ballasts or transformers shall be of the outdoor type and shall be mounted in such a manner as to be held rigid and at least one-half inch or more from the bottom of the sign or wireway. No ballasts shall be enclosed more than one half its height into a wireway. Adequate metal supports for ballasts shall be provided to ensure proper heat dissipation.
 - (2)b. Ballasts, transformers, sockets, lamp-holders and any other electrical equipment where there is a possibility of an excessive rise above their rated temperature shall be kept a minimum of two (2) inches from all plastics.
 - (3)c. Fluorescent lamps placed in a vertical position shall be provided with a moisture deflection washer at the lower lamp socket.
- (h8) Face limitation:
 - (1)a. Single-faced flat wall signs. Unless the plastic faces are hinged, access to the interior of the sign shall be provided for in a manner without dismantling any major portion of the sign as stated above. Where the plastic panel removal is required for access, no panel to be removed shall be more than thirty-two (32) square feet in area. Moulding shall be of such lengths as to provide for the removal of each panel independently.
 - (2)b. Double-faced and extended signs. Where the access to the interior of the sign is required through the face, such face shall be hinged or designed to slide as stated above, for panels that exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area. All moulding and retainers for sign faces shall be constructed so as to be structurally able to properly support each plastic panel as provided above.

Secs. 64.405 - 64.410. Reserved.

Sec. 64.411. Freestanding signs. ~~(e) Freestanding signs:~~

- (a+) Revolving freestanding signs are permitted but may not be illuminated with the flashing lights or exceed six (6) revolutions per minute.
- (b2) When specifically permitted in a zoning district, a freestanding sign may extend into a public right-of-way up to four (4) feet, but in no case may come closer than two (2) feet from the curbline and ten (10) feet above the ground level, and provided such sign does not violate Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.27.

Sec. 64.412. Projecting signs. ~~(f) Projecting signs:~~

- (a+) Projecting signs shall be supported in a stationary position by a cantilevered structure without the use of any guy wires, cables, angle irons or turnbuckles.
- (b2) When specifically permitted in a zoning district, signs projecting over a public right-of-way may project up to four (4) feet from the property line, but in no case may come closer than two (2) feet from the curbline and ten (10) feet above ground level, and provided such signs do not violate Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.27.

Sec. 64.413. Reserved. ~~(g) Reserved.~~

Sec. 64.414. Roof signs. ~~(h) Roof signs.~~

- (a+) The supporting members of a roof sign shall appear to be free of any extra bracing as angle irons, guy wires or cables, so as to be an architectural and integral part of the building. Supporting columns of round square or shaped steel members may be erected if required bracing visible to the public is minimized or covered.
- (b2) Roof signs shall be thoroughly secured and anchored to the frame of the building over which they are constructed and erected. Before any permit is granted for the erection of a roof sign greater in area than fifty (50) square feet, the plans and details of the supporting structure of the new framework, in addition to the structural details and calculations of the existing supporting building roof system, shall be filed for review by the zoning administrator. These plans and details shall be certified by a registered professional engineer.
- (c3) Clearance and access. Passage clear of all obstructions shall be left under or around, and immediately adjacent to, all signs exceeding a height of four (4) feet above the roof. Such passages shall be not less than three (3) feet wide and four (4) feet high.

Sec. 64.415. Wall signs. ~~(i) Wall signs.~~

Wall signs that are business signs may project into a public right-of-way or beyond a legal setback line up to ~~eighteen (18)~~ **twelve (12)** inches, [12" is the existing B4-B5 limit; current technology no longer needs 18".] provided such signs do not violate Minnesota Statutes, Section 160.27.

Sec. 64.416. Reserved.

Sec. 64.417. Combination signs. ~~(j) Combination signs.~~

In the case of combination signs which are composed of any combination of roof, projecting or freestanding signs, the individual requirements as set out in this section for roof, projecting or freestanding signs shall apply. If there are conflicts between provisions, the more stringent shall apply.

Sec. 64.418. Marquees. ~~(k) Marquees.~~

Signs may be placed on, attached to or constructed in a marquee. Such signs shall, for the purpose of determining projection, clearance, height and material, be considered a part of and shall meet the requirements for a marquee as specified in Chapter 45 of the state building code. No such sign shall project above or beyond the physical dimensions of the marquee, except that one sign less than four (4) square feet in size may be attached underneath for each entrance located under the marquee, provided the sign does not project lower than eight (8) feet above the sidewalk.

Sec. 64.419. Temporary signs. ~~(m) Temporary signs.~~

- (a+) Dimensions: No temporary sign shall exceed a total of one hundred (100) feet in area or six (6) feet in height except as otherwise provided herein.
- (b2) Clearance: Temporary signs, other than cloth, eight (8) feet or more above the ground, may project not more than six (6) inches over public property.
- (c3) Cloth Signs and Banners:
 - (1)a. It is unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to suspend or project any cloth or banner sign of any type whatever over a street, alley or other public property for the purpose of business advertisement.
 - (2)b. Temporary permission shall be allowed for a cloth or banner sign three (3) nonconsecutive times per calendar year for a period of not more than ninety (90) days per time.
 - (3)c. No cloth or banner sign shall exceed a total of one hundred twenty (120) square feet in area, and there shall be no more than one such sign for any twenty (20) feet of frontage of any building fronting on public property.
 - (4)d. Support. Temporary cloth and banner signs shall be supported and attached with wire rope or equivalent with a minimum diameter of three-eighths inch. No strings, fiber ropes or wood slats shall be permitted for support or anchorage purposes. Cloth signs and

panels shall be perforated over at least ten (10) percent of the area to reduce wind resistance.

Signs that span a public roadway cannot be attached to city light poles or traffic signal poles. Written permission to attach a banner to a building must be obtained from the building owner. The city forester must approve a banner before it may be attached to any tree on public property.

Exception: Temporary signs over private property not exceeding sixty (60) square feet shall be supported and attached with wire rope and shall meet the requirements of paragraph (2b) through (4d) and (6f) of this section.

- (5)e- Projection. Cloth signs and banners may extend over public property and shall maintain a minimum clearance of twenty (20) feet, provided permission has been granted by the zoning administrator.
- (6)f. No permit or permit fee shall required for such cloth signs or banners, but all safety requirements of this code shall be in force; provided, further, that approval as to the sign's location, size, design and hanging must be obtained from the zoning administrator.
- (d4) Portable Signs: No portable sign shall be placed or installed without a permit. No person engaging in or seeking to engage in the business of placing or installing portable signs shall operate without a license issued in accordance with section 646.202403.

(Code 1956, § 66.202; Ord. No. 17204, 1-15-85; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 11--13, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, §§ 97--101, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.21420. Advertising signs.

- (a) *Advertising signs prohibited.* No advertising signs are permitted in any zoning district in the city. The purposes of this prohibition are to enhance views of the natural and built environments of the city, to improve aesthetically the fusion of residential and commercial areas, to promote community pride on the part of property owners, to encourage beautification and investment in the city, to protect property values, and to reduce cluttered and chaotic signage, which draws attention away from the identification signs of businesses and institutions located in the city.
- (b) *Professional sports facility.* At a professional sports facility with permanent seating for more than ten thousand (10,000) spectators and located in a B4-B5 Business or IR-I2 Industrial zone, one (1) or two (2) advertising signs are permitted as an accessory use subject to the following standards:
 - (1) Advertising signs shall face and be designed to be read by traffic on arterial streets as designated in the comprehensive plan. A facility fronting on one (1) arterial street is permitted to have one (1) advertising sign; a facility fronting on two (2) or more arterial streets is permitted to have two (2) advertising signs.
 - (2) No advertising sign shall be located within three hundred (300) feet of a residential zoning district, house of worship, or school offering general education courses at the elementary, junior high or high school level.
 - (3) No advertising sign shall exceed seven hundred (700) square feet in size.
 - (4) Advertising signs shall be attached to exterior walls of the sports facility structure and shall not project above the wall.
 - (5) If the zoning administrator determines that the sign lighting affects neighboring properties, advertising signs shall not be illuminated overnight, either from midnight or from one (1) hour after the end of any professional sports game, whichever is later, until 6:00 a.m.
 - (6) For electronic message boards, the modes of display of messages shall conform to the requirements of section 64.504((a)(5)(c). Flashing modes are not permitted.

[This text was adopted on 8/23/00 (Council File #00-686) and was in code Supp. No. 45. It was inadvertently deleted in code Supp. No. 46 and needs to be put back in the code.]

(Code 1956, § 66.214; Ord. No. 17536, § 28, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 108, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 97-1089, § 10, 10-1-97; C.F. No. 00-686, § 2, 8-23-00; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. 66.215. Reserved.

~~Editor's note--Section 66.215, pertaining to signs in heritage preservation districts, and derived from Code 1956, § 66.215, was repealed by § 29 of Ord. No. 17536, adopted Feb. 2, 1988.~~

ARTICLE V. 64.500. SPECIFIC REGULATIONS BY ZONING DISTRICTS

Sec. 646.25013. Regulations by zoning districts.

The class, size and location of signs shall be only as permitted and regulated in the zoning districts authorized or permitted in this chapter.

(Code 1956, § 66.203)

Sec. 646.25024. R=EL through RM=3 Residential Districts.

(a) Identification signs:

- (1) For one- and two-family structures and bed and breakfast residences, one identification sign not exceeding a total of two (2) square feet in area.
- (2) For multiple-family structures on parcels twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet or smaller, one (1) identification sign for each street frontage is allowed. No sign shall exceed six (6) square feet in size. For multiple-family structures on parcels larger than twenty-five thousand (25,000) square feet, one (1) or two (2) identification sign(s) on each street frontage is/are allowed. The total amount of signage on each frontage shall not exceed twenty-four (24) square feet in size.
- (3) For structures other than residential uses, one identification sign for each street frontage not exceeding a total of thirty (30) square feet in area.
- (4) For parks, community centers, and religious, civic or philanthropic institutions, one identification sign, not exceeding a total of thirty (30) square feet in area for each street frontage, and one bulletin board not exceeding a total of thirty (30) square feet in area. **Such bulletin board signs may have electronically changeable text, but shall not fade in and out, scroll, or flash.** [This change reflects practice in recent years.]
- (5) No sign shall project higher than thirty (30) feet above grade.
- (6) If located within a required yard, a freestanding sign may not exceed four (4) feet in height plus two (2) inches for each foot set back from the property line.

(b) Temporary signs:

- (1) For new subdivisions or new multiple-family developments, one real estate development sign not exceeding a total of fifty (50) square feet in area within the subdivision or on the multiple-family lot, per three hundred (300) feet or less of lot frontage. No such sign shall be located in any required yard.
- (2) For all uses, one real estate sign not exceeding a total of six (6) square feet in area.
- (3) For all uses, one sign not exceeding a total of fifty (50) square feet in area identifying an engineer, architect or contractor engaged in, or product used in, the construction of a building.
- (4) For parks, community centers, and religious, educational, civic or philanthropic institutions, portable signs and temporary signs are permitted for special events under the following conditions:
 - a. Portable signs:
 1. On zoning lots with a street frontage of three hundred thirty (330) feet or less, the gross surface display area of the signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet. On zoning lots with a street frontage of over three hundred thirty (330) feet, the gross surface display area of the signs shall not exceed three hundred (300) square feet;
 2. The signs shall be permitted two (2) nonconsecutive times per calendar year

for a period of not more than fourteen (14) days per time;

3. The signs shall not be flashing signs or located in a required yard, required off-street parking space or maneuvering area, or public right-of-way.

b. Temporary signs.

1. The gross surface display area of the signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet;
2. The signs shall be permitted three (3) nonconsecutive times per calendar year for periods of not more than ~~ninety (90)~~ **thirty (30)** days per time;

[By definition, temporary signs are permitted for 30 days, 3 times a year. 90 days 3 times a year is almost all year, and not temporary. This amendment makes the language here consistent with the definition.]

3. The signs shall not be flashing signs or located in a required off-street parking space or maneuvering area, or public right-of-way.

(5) No sign shall project higher than thirty (30) feet above grade.

(Code 1956, § 66.204; Ord. No. 17393, § 6, 9-4-86; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 14, 15, 2-2-88; Ord. No. 17889, § 21, 11-21-91; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 102, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 99-750, § 14, 9-1-99)

Sec. 646.25035. TN1-TN3 Traditional Neighborhood and OS-1 and B-1 Business Districts.

(a) *Business signs:*

- (1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed one times the lineal feet of lot frontage, or seventy-five (75) square feet, whichever is greater.
- (2) No business sign shall be located in a required yard except for one freestanding sign. Freestanding signs may project into the public right-of-way up to eighteen (18) inches.
- (3) No sign shall project higher than thirty-seven and one-half (37 ½) feet above grade, except wall signs and freestanding signs on zoning lots abutting principal and intermediate arterials. Wall signs may project to the height allowed by the height restriction in the zoning code. On zoning lots which abut a principal or intermediate arterial, one freestanding sign may project to thirty-seven and one-half (37 ½) feet above the surface of the arterial.
- (4) **Sign materials shall be compatible with the original construction materials and architectural style of the building facade on or near which they are placed. Natural materials such as wood and metal are generally more appropriate than plastic.**
- (5) **Illumination of signs shall conform to the provisions of section 63.116, Exterior lighting, and shall not exceed one (1) footcandle four (4) feet from the sign. Signs should have light letters on a dark background; indirect and subdued lighting is preferred; and except for neon, internally lit electric signs are discouraged.** [This paragraph is consistent with requirements in the Grand Avenue, Highland Village and White Bear Avenue Special District Sign Plans. The one footcandle four feet from the sign is from the Highland Village Sign District adopted in 1986.]

(b) *Temporary signs:*

- (1) For new developments, one real estate development sign not exceeding a total of fifty (50) square feet in area on the lot of the new development, per three hundred (300) feet or less of lot frontage of the development. Such sign shall not be located within any required yard.
- (2) For all uses, one real estate sign not exceeding a total of six (6) square feet in area.
- (3) For all uses, one sign not exceeding a total of four (4) square feet in area identifying an engineer, architect or contractor engaged in, or product used in, the construction of a building.
- (4) Temporary signs shall be permitted as follows:
 - a. Banners, pennants and stringers.
 - b. Freestanding and wall signs, the total area not to exceed thirty-two (32) square feet.
 - c. Such signs shall be permitted three (3) nonconsecutive times per calendar year for

a period of not more than ~~ninety (90)~~ **thirty (30)** days per time. [As in § 64.405.]

- (5) Temporary signs, concerning a commodity, service or entertainment conducted, offered, sold or manufactured on the premises, placed inside of the window of a building are permitted.

(c) *Portable Signs.* Portable signs are permitted under the following conditions:

- (1) On zoning lots with a street frontage of three hundred thirty (330) feet or less, the gross surface display area of the signs shall not exceed thirty-six (36) square feet. On zoning lots with a street frontage of over three hundred thirty (330) feet, the gross surface display area of the signs shall not exceed three hundred (300) square feet;
- (2) The signs shall be permitted on a zoning lot four (4) nonconsecutive times per calendar year and for a period of not more than fourteen (14) days per time;
- (3) The signs shall not be flashing signs or located in a required yard, required off-street parking space or maneuvering area, or public right-of-way.

(Code 1956, § 66.205; Ord. No. 17204, 1-15-85; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 16--18, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 103, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.25046. OS-2, B-2C, B-2 and B-3 Business and IR Industrial Districts.

(a) *Business signs:*

- (1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed two (2) times the lineal feet of lot frontage or seventy-five (75) square feet, whichever is greater.
- (2) Only one (1) freestanding sign per lot is permitted in a required yard. A freestanding sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in display area.
- (3) One (1) projecting sign per entrance on a street frontage is permitted. Any sign which projects into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches shall not exceed twenty-five (25) square feet in display area.
- (4) The height of signs shall be subject to the conditions specified in ~~the OS-1 and B-1 districts~~, section ~~646.20503~~ **646.2503**(a)(3).
- (5) Electronic message signs shall be prohibited from the ~~OS-2, BC-B2 and B-2C~~ districts; provided, that electronic message signs giving public information, such as time, temperature, stock averages and the like, are permitted in ~~OS-2 and~~ **the B-2** districts. Electronic message signs are permitted in the districts under the following conditions:
 - a. The signs shall be six hundred sixty (660) feet from other electronic message signs on the same side of the same street;
 - b. The signs shall be at least seventy-five (75) feet, as measured along the road, of a residential district, and shall be at least fifty (50) feet from a residential district, measured radially; and
 - c. The following modes of displaying the message shall be permitted:
 1. The fade-in/fade-out mode where the message appears on the sign, dissolves and another message takes its place;
 2. The travel mode where the message moves across the sign from left to right or right to left; and
 3. The travel mode where the message moves from top to bottom or bottom to top.

Other modes of displaying messages are prohibited. Modes which cause the message to flash are prohibited.

(b) *Temporary signs:*

- (1) For new developments, one (1) real estate development sign not exceeding a total of one hundred (100) square feet in area on the lot of the new development. Such signs shall not be located within any required yard.

- (2) For all uses, real estate signs not exceeding at total of twelve (12) square feet in area.
- (3) For all uses, one (1) sign not exceeding a total of one hundred (100) square feet in area identifying an engineer, architect or contractor engaged in, or product used in, the construction of a building.
- (4) Temporary signs shall be permitted as follows:
 - a. Banners, pennants and stringers.
 - b. Freestanding and wall signs, the total area not to exceed a total of thirty-two (32) square feet.
 - c. Such signs shall be permitted three (3) nonconsecutive times per calendar year for a period of not more than ~~ninety (90)~~ **thirty (30)** days per time. [As in §64.405.]
- (5) Temporary signs, concerning a commodity, service or entertainment conducted, offered, sold or manufactured on the premises, placed inside of the window of a building are permitted.
- (6) No sign shall project higher than thirty-seven and one-half (37 ½) feet above grade.
- (c) *Portable signs.* Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in ~~the OS-1 and B-1 districts~~, section ~~646.20503~~(c).

(Code 1956, § 66.206; Ord. No. 17062, 10-20-83; Ord. No. 17204, 1-15-85; Ord. No. 17536, §§ 19--22, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 104, 12-14-93; C.F. No. 00-972, 11-8-00)

Sec. ~~646.250~~57. B-4-B5 Business Districts .

- (a) *Business signs:*
 - (1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed four (4) times the lineal feet of lot frontage of a lot.
 - (2) **One (1) projecting sign per entrance on a street frontage is permitted. Any sign which projects into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches shall not exceed twenty five (25) square feet in display area.** ~~Signs shall be permitted to project a maximum of twelve (12) inches over public sidewalks and rights-of-way from the building line.~~ [Current language is overly restrictive and has resulted in numerous variances we always grant. Proposed language is the same as for B2-B3 Business and IR Industrial Districts. With this change, projecting signs could project up to 4 feet under the general city-wide standards for projecting signs in §64.402(f)(2), and we would avoid a lot of time-consuming, pointless variance cases.]
 - (3) The height of signs shall be subject to the conditions specified in ~~the OS-1 and B-1 districts~~, section ~~646.20503~~(a)(3).
 - (4) Electronic message signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section ~~646.206504~~(a)(5).
- (b) *Temporary signs.* Temporary signs shall be permitted as required in ~~the B-2 and B-3 districts~~, section ~~646.206504~~(b).
- (c) *Portable signs.* Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in ~~the OS-1 and B-1 districts~~, section ~~646.20503~~(c).

(Code 1956, § 66.207; Ord. No. 17536, § 23, 2-2-88)

~~Sec. 66.208. B-5 Business District:~~

- ~~(a) *Business signs:*~~
 - ~~(1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed four (4) times the lineal feet of lot frontage of a lot.~~
 - ~~(2) Signs shall be permitted to project a maximum of twelve (12) inches over public sidewalks and rights-of-way from the building line.~~
 - ~~(3) The height of signs shall be subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(a)(3).~~
 - ~~(4) Electronic message signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(a)(5).~~

~~(b) Temporary signs. Temporary signs shall be permitted as required in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(b).~~

~~(c) Portable signs. Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(c).~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.208; Ord. No. 17536, § 24, 2-2-88) [§66.208 is a verbatim copy of §66.207 (now §64.407) and should be deleted. B4 and B5 sign regs. are combined in §64.407 above.]~~

Sec. 646.25069. I-1-I3 Industrial Districts .

~~(a) Business signs:~~

- ~~(1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed two (2) times the lineal feet of lot frontage of a lot in the I1 district, three (3) times the lineal feet of lot frontage in the I2 district, and one (1) times the lineal feet of lot frontage in the I3 district .~~
- ~~(2) No business sign shall be located in a required yard except one (1) freestanding sign. A freestanding sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~(3) One (1) projecting sign per entrance on a street frontage is permitted. Any such sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~(4) The heights of signs are permitted shall be subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 646.20503(a)(3).~~
- ~~(5) Electronic message signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 646.206504(a)(5).~~

~~(b) Temporary signs. Temporary signs shall be permitted as regulated in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 646.206504(b).~~

~~(c) Portable signs. Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 646.20503(c).~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.209; Ord. No. 17536, § 25, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 105, 12-14-93)~~

Sec. 66.210. I-2 Industrial 2 District.

~~(a) Business signs:~~

- ~~— (1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall not exceed three (3) times the lineal feet of lot frontage of a lot.~~
- ~~— (2) No business sign shall be located within any required yard except one (1) freestanding sign. A freestanding sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed a total of fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~— (3) One (1) projecting sign per entrance on a street frontage is permitted. That part of a sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed a total of fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~— (4) The height of signs are permitted subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(a)(3).~~
- ~~— (5) Electronic message signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(a)(5).~~

~~(b) Temporary signs. Temporary signs shall be permitted as regulated in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(b).~~

~~(c) Portable signs. Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(c).~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.210; Ord. No. 17536, § 26, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 106, 12-14-93)~~

Sec. 66.211. I-3 Industrial 3 District.

~~(a) Business signs:~~

- ~~— (1) The sum of the gross surface display area in square feet of all business signs on a lot shall~~

not exceed one (1) times the lineal feet of lot frontage of a lot.

- ~~— (2) No business sign shall be located within any required yard except one (1) freestanding sign. A freestanding sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~— (3) One (1) projecting sign per entrance on a street frontage is permitted. That part of a sign projecting into a public right-of-way beyond eighteen (18) inches may not exceed fifteen (15) square feet in display area.~~
- ~~— (4) The height of signs are permitted subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(a)(3).~~
- ~~— (5) Electronic message signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(a)(5).~~
- ~~(b) *Temporary signs.* Temporary signs shall be permitted as regulated in the B-2 and B-3 districts, section 66.206(b).~~
- ~~(c) *Portable signs.* Portable signs are permitted and subject to the conditions specified in the OS-1 and B-1 districts, section 66.205(c).~~

~~(Code 1956, § 66.211; Ord. No. 17536, § 27, 2-2-88; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 107, 12-14-93)~~

~~[I2-I3 sign regs. are combined with I1 sign regs. in §64.408 above.]~~

Sec. ~~646.507~~212. VP-1 Vehicular Parking District.

No sign, except those permitted on parking lots as described in section ~~646.2401(j)~~10 shall be permitted.

(Code 1956, § 66.212)

Sec. ~~646.508~~213. PD Planned Development District.

Signs shall be as permitted and regulated in each planned development in accordance with the provisions of sections ~~660.73800~~ to ~~660.73807~~, provided such regulations are consistent with the intent of this chapter.

(Code 1956, § 66.213)

Sec. ~~66.2131. RCR-1, RCC-1, and RCI-1 districts.~~

~~In the RCR-1 district signs are permitted as regulated in section 66.204, R-1 through RM-3 Residential Districts. In the RCC-1 and RCI-1 districts signs are permitted as regulated in section 66.206, B-2 Business District, except that advertising signs shall be prohibited.~~

~~(Ord. No. 17511, § 5, 11-12-87) [The RCR-1 and RCC-1 districts no longer exist. RCI-1 (now IR) is now included in §64.406, BC-B3 Business and IR Industrial District sign regulations.]~~

ARTICLE V. 64.600. SPECIAL SIGN DISTRICTS

Sec. ~~646.601~~216. Special district sign plan.

- (a) A comprehensive sign plan may be provided for business or industrial premises which are not part of a new planned development district as provided in section ~~646.508~~213 above, but which occupy the entire frontage on two (2) or more adjacent block fronts. The intent behind this provision is to allow and even encourage entertainment centers, shopping centers, historic districts and other comprehensive developments to build upon unique characteristics of certain sections of the city so long as the visual landscape created by the plan is in keeping with the general intent of this chapter. Such a plan shall be submitted to the planning commission and shall include the location, size, height, color, lighting orientation, overall design justification, and other information which may be reasonably required for the proper consideration of the matter.
- (b) Except for advertising signs for which the restrictions of this chapter shall not be weakened, less restrictive as well as more restrictive provisions than specified in this chapter may be permitted if the sign areas and densities for the plan as a whole are in conformity with the intent of this chapter and if such exception results in an improved relationship between the

various parts of the plan.

- (c) Application shall be made to the city council for consideration under this provision. Approval may be granted by city council resolution, after review and recommendation is made by the planning commission, and only after a public hearing before the planning commission and the city council.

(Code 1956, § 66.216; C.F. No. 00-973, § 1, 11-15-00)

Sec. ~~646.6102169~~.4. Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section ~~646.21601~~ of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls in the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- (b) *Area description.* The Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described as follows: Minnehaha Avenue on the north, McKnight Road on the east and the city-county line on the south. The western boundary follows this line from north to south Birmingham Avenue South to East 6th Street, East 3rd Street west to Bloomington Avenue, Birmingham Avenue south to Interstate 94, Interstate 94 west to Highway 61, Highway 61 south to Warner Road, Warner Road west to Mississippi River, Mississippi River south to the city-county line, all in the city.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of the zoning code, ~~Chapter 646, entitled "Signs."~~ Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of ~~Chapter 646~~ shall prevail and supersede provisions in ~~Chapter 646~~. All other provisions of ~~Chapter 646 of the zoning code~~ shall continue to apply to signs in the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in ~~Chapter 646 of the zoning code~~.
- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section ~~646.300~~ pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
 - (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District; or

- d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
- (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
- a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District is required under the provisions of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 646, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Sunray-Battlecreek-Highwood, District One Community Council Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 00-1015, § 1, 12-27-00)

~~Editor's note--C.F. No. 00-1015, § 1, adopted December 27, 2000, amended the Code by adding a new § 66.2169. In order to prevent duplication of section numbers, the provisions have been renumbered as § 66.2169.4 at the discretion of the editor.~~

Sec. 646.6202169.5. Greater Eastside Area Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section 646.21601 of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls within the Greater Eastside Area neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Greater Eastside Area neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- (b) *Area description.* The Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District Plan shall consist of the following four (4) areas:
- (1) *White Bear Avenue Subarea:* The entire length of White Bear Avenue beginning on the south at its junction with Interstate 94 and proceeding north along the avenue to its junction witharpenteur Avenue. The width of this subarea shall extend one-half block on either side of the avenue.
 - (2) *Payne Avenue Subarea:* The entire length of Payne Avenue beginning on the south at its junction with East Seventh Street and proceeding north along the avenue to its junction with Wheelock Parkway. The width of this subarea shall extend one-half block on either side of the avenue.
 - (3) *Phalen Boulevard/Phalen Village:* This subarea shall consist of that area defined in the Phalen Village Small Area Plan as the Phalen Boulevard/Phalen Village as adopted by the city in 1994 and the planned road known as Phalen Blvd. from I-35E on the west to Maryland Avenue on the east. The width of the subarea shall extend six hundred sixty (660) feet on either side of the right of way.
 - (4) *Arcade Street Subarea:* The entire length of Arcade Street beginning on the south at its

- junction with East Seventh Street and proceeding north along the avenue to its junction with Larpenteur Avenue. The width of this subarea shall extend one-half block on either side of the avenue.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of ~~the zoning code, cChapter 646, entitled "Signs."~~ Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of ~~cChapter 646~~ shall prevail and supersede provisions in ~~cChapter 646~~. All other provisions of ~~cChapter 646 of the zoning code~~ shall continue to apply to signs in the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in ~~cChapter 646 of the zoning code~~.
- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section ~~646.300~~ pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
- (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another non-conforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District is required under the provisions of ~~the Saint Paul Legislative Code cChapter 646~~, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Greater Eastside Area Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

Sec. 646.625217. White Bear Avenue Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The White Bear Avenue Special District Sign Plan, as provided in section ~~646.21601~~ of the zoning code, is intended to provide sign controls for the White Bear Avenue corridor. These controls will enhance the unique character and identity of White Bear Avenue, reduce sign clutter, and provide strong, clear identification of businesses. They recognize the need of businesses to be visible to the high volume of traffic that uses White Bear Avenue. The sign plan provides a unified framework for the sign systems of the various commercial nodes (e.g. Minnehaha, 7th Street, Hillcrest, etc.), which will fit the architecture of the buildings, clearly identify businesses, and enhance the image of the business districts and foster pride in the adjacent neighborhoods.
- (b) *Area description.* The area covered by this plan includes commercial property along White Bear Avenue from Larpenteur to I-94. The area generally extends one-half block east and west of White Bear Avenue, but extends as needed to encompass commercial nodes.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this special district sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of Chapter ~~646, Signs, of the zoning code~~. The provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than provisions of Chapter ~~646~~ shall prevail and supersede the provisions of Chapter ~~646~~. All words and terms shall be defined as in Chapter ~~646 of the Zoning Code of the City of Saint Paul~~. The word "shall" is mandatory; the word "should" is advisory.
- (d) *Advertising signs.* Advertising signs shall be regulated through the Greater East Side Special District Sign Plan.
- (e) *Business signs.* Business signs are necessary for the viability of the commercial areas on White Bear Avenue. They inform customers about the type of business and its location. The name of the business should be highlighted. In general, words and symbols should take no more than 40 percent of the total area of a sign. Signs with light letters on a dark background are easier to spot on a busy street. Sign colors and materials should be compatible with the building and surrounding environment. To maximize the effect of the graphics, the number of colors should be minimal. Lighting of signs should be carefully considered; internally lit electric signs are discouraged.
- (1) Business signs shall be used to identify the business, not to advertise products. Signs that advertise a product and include the name of the business on the premises where the sign is placed are prohibited. These signs, which are often provided by product suppliers, fail to highlight the important information (the business name) and clutter the appearance of the street.
 - (2) Roof signs shall be parallel to the wall of the building and used to match rooflines and unify sign bands on adjacent buildings. Roof signs shall not be used for advertising.
 - (3) Wall signs shall cover neither windows nor architectural trim and detail. Wall signs should be located on the bands of building facades: over the entry, over windows, or between windows. Because wall signs are almost always seen from an angle, extended typefaces should be used. Viewing from an angle diminishes the apparent width and spacing of the letters.

Signs painted directly on the wall of a building shall not be permitted. Signs painted directly on the wall of a building defaces the building. Tenants may move and the painted wall sign may be left to mis-identify a new tenant or to peel and become unsightly.
 - (4) Ground signs are recommended for institutional, professional and industrial buildings. Ground signs for individual establishments should be used only when a building is set back fifteen (15) feet or more from the street right-of-way. Ground signs for individual establishments shall be placed parallel to the street.
 - (5) Grouped signs are used to identify multiple businesses in a larger building or **adjacent contiguous** buildings. They are recommended when individual projecting signs would block each other. Grouped signs may be used for businesses that are not directly accessible from the public sidewalk. They shall be placed within a common framework and may be placed perpendicular to the street.

- (6) Projecting signs are effective for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, but they also tend to obstruct the view of other signs and are a major source of sign clutter. Projecting signs that display a symbolic or business name are permitted. No more than one (1) projecting sign per forty (40) feet shall be permitted. Multiple businesses closer to one (1) another than forty (40) feet shall not use projecting signs.
- (7) Pole signs can bring a business with a setback up to the street. Like projecting signs, pole signs are effective for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic, but they also can be a source of sign clutter. Pole signs are permitted for individual buildings that are occupied by a single business and that have a setback from the street right-of-way of thirty-five (35) feet or more. Pole signs shall use as little structure as possible, shall be stationary, and shall be no higher than twenty (20) feet above grade at the highest point. Structural elements of the sign should be painted black or another dark color.
- (8) Permanent window signs are permitted and shall not exceed ten (10) percent of the store window glass area.
- (9) Portable signs shall not be permitted in the White Bear Avenue Sign District.
- (10) Banners identifying White Bear Avenue business districts attached to street lights are permitted. They shall be designed with a common shape within the sign district, while patterns may reflect the neighborhood designation.

(C.F. No. 01-612, § 3, 7-11-01)

Sec. 646.6302168. West Side Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The West Side Special District Sign Plan, created as provided in section ~~646.601216~~ of this code, is adopted to provide sign controls that build upon, preserve and enhance the unique character of the West Side neighborhood. The sign plan is intended to protect property values, to preserve and protect the neighborhood viewscape, especially those of the Mississippi river and its bluffs, the Capitol, Cathedral, and downtown skyline and other features uniquely visible from West Side neighborhoods and to enhance the overall effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs.
- (b) *Area description.* The West Side Special District Sign Plan shall apply to the area of Saint Paul bordered generally by the Mississippi River on the northwest, north and northeast and by Annapolis Street defining the city limits with West Saint Paul and South Saint Paul on the south. Excepted from this plan is that area covered by the Smith Avenue Special District Sign Plan as set forth in ~~Legislative Code~~ section ~~646.6352162~~.
- (c) *Advertising sign restrictions.* Advertising signs shall not be permitted within the sign plan district except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city. Construction, erection, replacement, or renovation of advertising signs shall not be permitted. Existing, nonconforming, advertising signs shall:
 - (1) Be immediately removed, at the owner's expense, from the special sign district if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of such sign, signified by a lack of advertising message, has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
 - (2) Not be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in either this district or the Smith Avenue Special Sign Districts; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.

- (d) *Administration and enforcement.* ~~The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this sign plan as a supplement to the Zoning Code, chapter 66, Signs.~~ [Redundant, since this is part of Chapter 64.] Whenever a permit for a sign in this special sign district is required under the provisions of chapter 646 of this code, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in conformance with this plan. Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of chapter 646 shall prevail and supersede the provision in chapter 646. All other provisions of chapter 646 shall apply to this sign plan district.

(C.F. No. 99-1241, § 1, 1-26-00)

~~Editor's note—C.F. No. 99-1241, § 1, adopted January 26, 2000, amended the Code by adding a new section to be numbered § 66.2167. In order to prevent duplication of section numbers, the editor has designated such new provisions as § 66.2168.~~

Sec. 646.6352162. Smith Avenue Special District Sign Plan.

The Smith Avenue Special District Sign Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 above, applies to the area defined by Cherokee Avenue on the north, Annapolis Street on the south, Manomin Avenue on the east, and Ottawa Avenue on the west. The provisions of this plan are supplementary to those of this chapter; the most restrictive provision shall apply. Within the Smith Avenue Special Sign District signs shall be subject to the following provisions:

- (a+) Advertising signs shall not be permitted.
- (b2) Business signs which advertise a product in addition to the business on the premises shall not be permitted.
- (c3) No more than one (1) projecting or freestanding sign per forty-foot lot shall be permitted.
- (d4) The highest point on business signs shall be no more than twenty (20) feet above ground.

(Ord. No. 17223, § 1, 3-14-85; C.F. No. 93-1718, § 109, 12-14-93)

Sec. 646.6402169. Dayton's Bluff Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Dayton's Bluff neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- (b) *Area description.* The Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described area is as follows: Warner Road and the Mississippi River on the South, Lafayette Road and Interstate Highway 94 to Interstate Highway 35E interchange ramp on the West, Grove Street and Chicago Northwestern Railroad on the North and Johnson Parkway, Birmingham Ave. South to East 6th Street East to a NS line cutting through the center of Harding High School to East 3rd Street, East 3rd Street West to Birmingham South to Interstate Highway 94, Interstate Highway 94 West to Highway 61, Highway 61 South to Warner Road, Warner Road West to the Mississippi River, Mississippi River to Lafayette Road, all in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of the zoning code, cChapter 646, entitled "Signs." Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of cChapter 646 shall prevail and supersede provisions in cChapter 646. All other provisions of cChapter 646 of the zoning code shall continue to apply to signs in the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in cChapter 646 of the zoning code.
- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;

- (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
- (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
 - (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three consecutive months.
- (f) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District is required under the provisions of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, Chapter 646, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Dayton's Bluff Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 00-956, § 1, 11-1-00)

Sec. 64.650. Reserved.

Sec. 646.660-2169.2. North End/South Como Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The North End/South Como Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls in the North End/South Como neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of North End/South Como neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- (b) *Area description.* The North End/South Como Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described area is as follows: Commencing at the center of the intersection of Dale Street North and Larpenteur Avenue; proceeding east along the center-line of Larpenteur to Freeway I-35E; south along the median of I-35E to the Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way; thence following the right-of-way west to Lexington Parkway; north along centerline of Lexington

Parkway to Horton Avenue; east along centerline of Horton Avenue to Churchill Street; north along centerline of Churchill Street to West Como Blvd.; south and east along centerline of West Como Boulevard To East Como Boulevard; north along centerline of East Como Boulevard to Maryland Avenue; east along centerline of Maryland Avenue to Dale Street North; and north along centerline of Dale Street North to the point of beginning.

- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of ~~the zoning code, eChapter 646, entitled "Signs."~~ Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of ~~eChapter 646~~ shall prevail and supersede provisions in ~~eChapter 646~~. All other provisions of ~~eChapter 646 of the zoning code~~ shall continue to apply to signs in the North End/South Como Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in ~~eChapter 646 of the zoning code~~.
- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the North End/South Como Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the North End/South Como Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section ~~646.300~~ pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
 - (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the North End/South Como Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the North End/South Como Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding 50% of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the City; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the North End/South Como Special Sign District is required under the provisions of ~~the Saint Paul Legislative Code, eChapter 646~~, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the North End/South Como Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall

accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 00-1024, § 1, 12-27-00)

Sec. 646.6702169.6. Thomas/Dale District 7 Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District Plan, as provided in ~~Section 646.21601 of the Zoning Code~~, is intended to provide advertising sign controls in the Thomas/Dale District 7 neighborhood. In keeping with the Thomas/Dale District 7 Community Plan, this Special Sign District Plan is intended to reduce visual clutter and enhance the neighborhood feel of commercial districts in the Thomas/Dale District 7 neighborhood. Neighborhood efforts are currently underway to redesign Dale Street to reduce the negative impacts of high traffic, noise and poor appearance and to improve and enhance University Avenue.

Adding signs to the existing visual landscape detracts from the pedestrian and neighborhood friendliness of the commercial environment. Residents and other consumers often complain that University and Dale feel more like highways than city streets. Advertising signs clearly play a large role in this perception. Adding to the existing density of signs will only exacerbate this problem. Furthermore, additional signs will work against current efforts to improve the appearance and economic vitality of University Avenue and Dale Street.

The purpose of advertising signs is to attract peoples' attention long enough to read the message of the sign. Drivers whose attention is on advertising signs rather than the road can cause collisions. Dale Street is a busy street with more than twenty-two thousand (22,000) cars per day passing through the neighborhood. Likewise, University Avenue is even busier, carrying more than twenty-five thousand (25,000) cars per day. Because of these large traffic volumes, advertising signs distract driver attention and are a traffic safety hazard.

- (b) *Area description.* The Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the following designated area as follows: Beginning at the intersections of the centerlines of University Avenue and Lexington Parkway thence north along the centerline of Lexington Parkway to its intersection with the centerline of the railroad tracks north of Pierce Butler Route; then east along the centerline of the railroad tracks north of Pierce Butler Route to its intersection with the centerline of Interstate 35E; then south along the centerline of Interstate 35E to its intersection with the centerline of University Avenue; then west along the centerline of University Avenue to its intersection with the centerline of Lexington Parkway, but excepting the capital area bounded by Marion Street, Pennsylvania Avenue and Jackson Street;
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign ~~plan~~ are supplementary to the provisions of ~~Chapter 646, Signs, of the Zoning Code~~. All words and terms shall be defined as in ~~Legislative Code~~ sections 646.103--646.128. The provisions of this special sign plan that are more restrictive than provisions of ~~Chapter 646~~ shall prevail and supersede the provisions of ~~Chapter 646~~.
- (d) *Advertising signs.* No advertising signs shall be permitted within the Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city. Existing advertising signs shall be allowed to stay, provided they meet all provisions of ~~Chapter 646, Signs, of the zoning code~~.
- (e) *Business signs.* The regulation of business signs in the Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District shall be pursuant to ~~section Chapter 646 of the Zoning Code~~.
- (f) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
- (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not

- be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the District 7+ Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
- (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the District 7+ Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
- a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been ~~discounted~~ discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Administration and enforcement.* The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this plan as a supplement to ~~c~~Chapter 646, Signs, ~~of the zoning code~~. Whenever a permit request for an advertising sign in the Thomas/Dale District 7 Special Sign District is requested, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the advertising sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in compliance with this supplement and other provisions of ~~c~~Chapter 646, Signs, ~~of the zoning code~~.

(C.F. No. 00-1066, § 1, 2-7-01)

Secs. 64.680 - 64.700. Reserved.

Sec. 646.7102165. Hamline Midway Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Hamline Midway Special Sign District Plan, as provided in section ~~646.601216 of this code~~, is intended to provide advertising sign controls in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. In keeping with the Hamline Midway Community Plan, this Special Sign District Plan is intended to reduce visual clutter on those streets and enhance the neighborhood feel of commercial districts in the Hamline Midway neighborhood. Neighborhood efforts are currently underway to redesign Snelling Avenue to reduce the negative impacts of high traffic, noise and poor appearance.

Adding signs to the existing visual landscape detracts from the pedestrian and neighborhood friendliness of the commercial environmental. Residents and other consumers often complain that University and Snelling feel more like a highway than a city street. Advertising signs clearly play a large role in this perception. Adding to the existing density of signs will only exacerbate this problem. Furthermore, additional signs will work against current efforts to improve the appearance and economic vitality of Snelling and University Avenues.

The purpose of advertising signs is to attract peoples' attention long enough to read the message of the sign. Drivers whose attention is on advertising signs rather than the road can cause collisions. Snelling Avenue is the busiest street in St. Paul with more than thirty-five thousand (35,000) cars per day passing through the neighborhood. Likewise, University Avenue is very busy, carrying more than twenty thousand (20,000) cars per day. Because of these large traffic volumes, advertising signs distract driver attention and are a traffic safety hazard.

- (b) *Area description.* The Hamline Midway Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area designated on the map "Hamline Midway Special Sign District," which is on file and available for inspection in the office of the city clerk. The described area is as follows: Beginning at the intersection of the centerlines of University Avenue and Lexington Parkway thence traveling north along the centerline of Lexington Parkway to its intersection with the centerline of Pierce Butler Route; thence west along the centerline of Pierce Butler Route to its intersection with the centerline of Transfer Road; thence south along the centerline of Transfer Road to its intersection with the centerline of University Avenue; thence east along the centerline of University Avenue to its intersection with the centerline of Lexington Parkway.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the

provisions of Chapter 646, Signs, of the zoning code. All words and terms shall be defined as in Legislative Code §§ 646.103--646.128. The provisions of this special sign plan that are more restrictive than provisions of Chapter 646 shall prevail and supersede the provisions of Chapter 646.

- (d) *Advertising signs.* No advertising sign shall be permitted within the Hamline Midway Special Sign District except on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city. Existing advertising signs shall be allowed to stay, provided they meet all provisions of Chapter 646, Signs, of the zoning code.
- (e) *Business signs.* The regulation of business signs in the Hamline Midway Special Sign District shall be pursuant to section Chapter 646 of the zoning code.
- (f) *Nonconforming signs.* The regulation of nonconforming signs shall be pursuant to the provisions of a Article III, section 66.300, Nonconforming Signs, of this chapter zoning code.
- (g) *Administration and enforcement.* ~~The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this plan as a supplement to Chapter 66, Signs, of the zoning code.~~ [Redundant, since this is part of Chapter 64.] Whenever a permit request for an advertising sign in the Hamline Midway Special Sign District is requested, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the advertising sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in compliance with this supplement and other provisions of Chapter 66, Signs, of the zoning code.

(C.F. No. 99-888, § 1, 10-13-99)

Sec. 646.7202164. Saint Anthony Park Special District Sign Plan.

The Saint Anthony Park Special District Sign Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 of this code, pursuant to Council File No. 99-305 applies to the area defined as follows: commencing at the extreme northwest corner of the city, the boundary shall extend east along the city limit to Cleveland Avenue, south along the city limit to a point near Como Avenue, and east along the city limit to the centerline of vacated Aldine Street, thence continuing south along the centerline of vacated Aldine Street to the centerline of Wynne Avenue, east along the centerline of Wynne Avenue to the centerline of Snelling Avenue, south along the centerline of Snelling Avenue to the northerly right-of-way line of the Burlington Northern and Sante Fe Railway just south of Energy Park Drive, westerly along such northerly railway right-of-way line to the centerline of Cleveland Avenue extended north along the section line from University Avenue, south along the centerline of Cleveland Avenue extended and Cleveland Avenue to the centerline of Interstate Highway 94, westerly along the centerline of Interstate Highway 94 to the western city limit, and thence north along the city limit to the northwest corner of the city where the boundary line began. ~~The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this sign plan as a supplement to Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 66.~~ [Redundant, since this is part of Chapter 64.]

Within the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District, signs shall be subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
- (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo and nature of the business carried on in the premises.

Signs within the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the adoption of this sign plan and which would be prohibited, regulated or restricted under the provisions of this sign plan or amendments hereto, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs under the provisions of Legislative Code section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:

- (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - (a) Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - (b) Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message on a nonconforming sign will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - (c) Relocated to any other location in the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District; or

- (d) Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
- (e) Maintained through replacement of structural elements; or
- (2) Any nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - (a) It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - (b) It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss; or
 - (c) Use of such sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.

Whenever a permit for a sign in the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District is required under the provisions of ~~Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 646, Signs~~, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Saint Anthony Park Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All plans submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the plans within thirty (30) days and notify both the applicant and the Department of License, Inspections and Environmental Protection of any decision to approve or disapprove the plans. Written reasons for denial shall be prepared by the zoning administrator and shall accompany any decision to disapprove the plans. Any decision by the zoning administrator may be appealed to the planning commission as provided in ~~Chapter 61, Administration and Enforcement~~ ~~Saint Paul Legislative Code section 64.300(j)~~.

(C.F. No. 99-341, § 1, 5-5-99)

Sec. ~~646.7302~~166. Merriam Park Special District Sign Plan.

(a) *Intent and purpose.* The Merriam Park Special Sign District Plan, as provided in section ~~646.601216~~ of this code, is adopted to provide sign controls that build upon the unique character and identity of Merriam Park. This Sign Plan is intended to:

- (1) Maintain and enhance the scenic view of unique architectural and natural features visible from the residential and commercial areas of Merriam Park;
- (2) Protect and encourage investment and beautification in the University Avenue, Marshall Avenue, Snelling Avenue and Selby Avenue corridors;
- (3) Reduce the clutter and chaotic diversity of advertising signage that impairs the effectiveness of signs identifying businesses and institutions in Merriam Park;
- (4) Create a more aesthetically pleasing fusion of residential and commercial areas in Merriam Park; and
- (5) Protect property values in Merriam Park and reflect the pride its residents, businesses and institutions place in the community.
- (b) *Definitions and interpretation.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of Chapter ~~646, Signs~~, of this code. The provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than provisions of Chapter ~~646~~ shall prevail and supersede any conflicting provisions of Chapter ~~646~~. All other provisions of Chapter ~~646~~ of this code shall continue to apply to signage within the Merriam Park Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in Chapter ~~646~~ of this code. Provisions that use the word "shall" are mandatory. Provisions that use the word "should" or "recommend" are advisory to carrying out the intent and purpose of this sign plan but are not mandatory.
- (c) *Special sign district area.* The Merriam Park Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area defined as follows:

Commencing at the center of the intersection of Snelling Avenue and University Avenue, the boundary shall extend south along the centerline of Snelling Avenue to the centerline of

Summit Avenue, then west along the centerline of Summit Avenue extending to the western city limit, then northerly along the western city limit to the median of Interstate Highway 94, easterly along the median of Interstate Highway 94 until the centerline of University Avenue, then easterly along the centerline of University Avenue until the centerline of Snelling Avenue.

(d) *Provisions.*

- (1) No advertising sign shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city.
- (2) No free-standing or roof business sign shall be permitted, except business signs which identify the name, logo, and/or nature of the business or profession conducted on the premises.

(e) *Nonconforming advertising signs.* Signs within the Merriam Park Special District which lawfully existed prior to the adoption of this sign plan by the city council, and which would be prohibited, regulated or restricted under the provisions of this sign plan or amendments hereto, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs under the provisions of section 646.300, Nonconforming signs, ~~of this code~~, subject to the following additional requirements:

- (1) No nonconforming advertising signs shall be:
 - a. Altered in any way, other than changing the message on a painted or printed sign;
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming [sign];
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Merriam Park Special District;
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its display surface, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
- (2) Any nonconforming advertising sign shall be immediately removed from the Merriam Park Special District at the cost of the owner:
 - a. If it incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its display surface, as determined by the city; or
 - b. If use of such sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.

(C.F. No. 99-889, § 1, 10-13-99)

Sec. 646.7352167. Snelling Hamline Special District Sign Plan.

(a) *Intent and purpose.* The Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 ~~of the Zoning Code~~, to provide sign controls in the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Snelling-Hamline's neighborhoods and commercial districts.

(b) *Area description.* The Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described area is as follows:

Commencing at the center of the intersection of Snelling Avenue and University Avenue, the boundary shall extend south along the centerline of Snelling Avenue to the centerline of Summit Avenue, then east along the centerline of Summit Avenue extending to the centerline of Ayd Mill Road, then running northwesterly along the centerline of Ayd Mill Road, then north on the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad right-of-way to the centerline of Marshall Avenue, east to the centerline of Hamline Avenue, north to the centerline of University Avenue, then west to the point of beginning, all in the city of St. Paul, Minnesota.

(c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of ~~the Zoning Code~~, Chapter 646, entitled "Signs." Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of Chapter 646 shall prevail and supersede provisions

in Chapter 646. All other provisions of Chapter 646 of the Zoning Code shall continue to apply to signs in the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in Chapter 66 of the Zoning Code.

- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Nonconforming signs within the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
- (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (f) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District is required under the provisions of the Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 646, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Snelling-Hamline Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 99-1229, § 1, 1-26-00)

Editor's note—C.F. No. 99-1229, § 1, adopted January 26, 2000, amended the Code by adding a new section to be numbered § 66.2166. In order to prevent duplication of section numbers, the editor has designated such new provisions as § 66.2167.

Sec. 646.7402169.3. Macalester-Groveland Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section 646.601216 of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising

signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Macalester-Groveland neighborhoods and commercial districts.

- (b) *Area description.* The Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described area is as follows: Beginning at a point where Mississippi River Boulevard and Summit Avenue intersect, along Summit Avenue to Ayd Mill Road, Southeasterly along Ayd Mill Road to the 35E Corridor, then South along the 35E Corridor to Randolph Avenue, West along Randolph Avenue to Mississippi River Boulevard, then North along Mississippi River Boulevard to the point of the beginning except those areas presently controlled under the provisions of Legislative Code section 646.7452161.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of ~~the zoning code, cChapter 646, entitled "Signs."~~ Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of ~~cChapter 646~~ shall prevail and supersede provisions in ~~cChapter 646~~. All other provisions of ~~cChapter 646 of the zoning code~~ shall continue to apply to signs in the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as in this sign plan and in ~~cChapter 646 of the zoning code~~.
- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
 - (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
 - (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District is required under the provisions of ~~the Saint Paul Legislative Code, cChapter 646~~, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Macalester-Groveland Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be

established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 00-1020, § 1, 12-27-00)

Sec. ~~646.745~~~~2161~~. Grand Avenue Special District Sign Plan.

The Grand Avenue Special District Sign Plan, created as provided in section ~~646.601216~~ above, applies to the area defined by Oakland Avenue on the east, Cretin Avenue on the west and the parallel alleys north and south of Grand Avenue. The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of the Grand Avenue Special District Sign Plan as a supplement to the zoning code. Whenever a permit for a sign within the Grand Avenue Special Sign District is required under the provisions of this chapter, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in conformance with the Grand Avenue Special District Sign Plan. Building permit applications for signs in the Grand Avenue Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval.

(Ord. No. 17098, 1-17-84; C.F. No. 99-750, § 15, 9-1-99)

Sec. ~~646.750~~~~2163~~. Highland Village Special District Sign Plan.

The Highland Village Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section ~~646.601216~~, pursuant to city council resolution C.F. No. 86-1451, applies to the area as defined by said council resolution. The provisions of this plan are supplementary to those of this chapter and the most restrictive provision shall apply. Within the Highland Village Special District Sign Plan, signs shall be subject to the provisions as contained and set forth in City Council Resolution C.F. No. 86-1451. The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of the Highland Village Special District Sign Plan as a supplement to the zoning code. Whenever a permit for a sign within the Highland Village Special Sign District is required under the provisions of this chapter, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in conformance with the Highland Village Special District Sign Plan. Building permit applications for signs in the Highland Village Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval.

(Ord. No 17414, § 1, 11-4-86; C.F. No. 99-750, § 15, 9-1-99)

Sec. ~~646.755~~~~2169.1~~. Shepard Davern Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Shepard Davern Special Sign District Plan, created as provided in section ~~646.601216~~ of the zoning code, in order to provide sign controls in the Shepard Davern neighborhood, is intended to protect property values, to maintain and enhance the visibility of unique architectural and natural features, and to encourage investment and beautification in residential and commercial areas by reducing the visual clutter of advertising signs which impair the effectiveness of neighborhood business and institutional signs and otherwise detract from the appearance, perception and safety of Shepard Davern neighborhoods and commercial districts.
- (b) *Area description.* The Shepard Davern Special Sign District Plan shall apply to the area described area is as follows: Beginning at a point where Shepard Road, Mississippi River Boulevard and West Seventh intersect, northeasterly along West Seventh Street to Edgecumbe Road, north on Edgecumbe Road to St. Paul Avenue, east along St. Paul Avenue to West Seventh Street, northeasterly along West Seventh Street to Homer Street, southeasterly along Homer Street to Shepard Road, southwesterly along Shepard Road to the point of the beginning.
- (c) *Interpretation and definitions.* The provisions of this sign plan are supplementary to the provisions of the zoning code, Chapter 66, entitled "Signs." Provisions of this sign plan that are more restrictive than the provisions of Chapter 66 shall prevail and supersede provisions in Chapter 66. All other provisions of Chapter 66 of the zoning code shall continue to apply to signs in the Shepard Davern Special Sign District. All words and terms shall be defined as

in this sign plan and in ~~c~~Chapter 66 of the zoning code.

- (d) *General sign restrictions.* Signs within the Shepard Davern Special Sign District shall be subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted, except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Roof signs which advertise a product, service or entertainment which is offered, sold or manufactured on the premises shall not be permitted, but a roof sign may identify the name, logo, and nature of the business carried on in the premises.
 - (3) Business signs are not affected by this sign plan.
- (e) *Nonconforming signs.* Regulation of nonconforming signs within the Shepard Davern Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the effective date of this sign plan or any amendments hereto and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this plan, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs regulated under the provisions of section 646.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
- (1) No nonconforming sign shall be:
 - a. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 - b. Replaced by another nonconforming sign, though a change in the message will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 - c. Relocated to any other location in the Shepard Davern Special Sign District; or
 - d. Reconstructed after incurring damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of the loss, as determined by the city; or
 - e. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - (2) A nonconforming sign shall be immediately removed from the Shepard Davern Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 - a. It is an imminent danger to life or property; or
 - b. It incurs damage in an amount exceeding fifty (50) percent of its replacement cost at the time of loss, as determined by the city; or
 - c. Use of the sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (g) *Sign permits; administration.* Whenever a permit for a sign in the Shepard Davern Special Sign District is required under the provisions of the Saint Paul Legislative Code, ~~c~~Chapter 646, a permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for signs in the Shepard Davern Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All applications submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provisions of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the application within thirty (30) days and notify the applicant of any decision to approve or disapprove the application. Written reasons, prepared by the zoning administrator, shall accompany all application decisions.

(C.F. No. 00-1018, § 1, 12-27-00)

Sec. 64.760. Reserved.

Sec. 646.770-2169.7. Downtown Area Special District Sign Plan.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The Downtown Special Sign District Plan, as provided in section 646.21601 of this code, is adopted to provide advertising sign controls that build upon the unique character and identity of the city's downtown. This sign plan is intended to:
- (1) Maintain and enhance the scenic view of unique architectural and natural features visible from the residential and commercial areas of downtown;
 - (2) Protect and encourage investment and beautification of downtown;

- (3) Reduce the clutter and chaotic diversity of advertising signage that impairs the effectiveness of signs identifying businesses and institutions in downtown;
 - (4) Create a more aesthetically pleasing fusion of residential and commercial areas in downtown; and
 - (5) Protect property values in downtown and reflect the pride its residents, businesses and institutions place in the community.
- (b) The provisions of the Downtown Special District Sign Plan apply within the boundaries of the District 17 Neighborhood District Council but excludes those areas of District 17 which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Capital Area Architectural and Planning Board as provided by Minnesota Statute 15.50.
- (c) Within the Downtown Special Sign District, advertising signs shall be subject to the following restrictions:
- (1) No advertising signs shall be permitted except signs on transit shelters and courtesy benches licensed or franchised by the city;
 - (2) Advertising signs within the Downtown Special Sign District which lawfully existed prior to the adoption of this special sign plan and which would be prohibited, regulated, or restricted under the provisions of this sign plan or amendments hereto, may continue to exist as legal nonconforming signs under the provisions of Legislative Code section 66.300 pertaining to nonconforming signs, subject to the following additional requirements:
 - a. No nonconforming advertising sign shall be:
 1. Altered or enlarged in any way; or
 2. Replaced by another nonconforming advertising sign, though a change in the message on a nonconforming advertising sign will not be deemed to be a replacement; or
 3. Relocated to any other location in the Downtown Special Sign District; or
 4. Reconstructed after incurring damage to the advertising sign display surface or advertising sign structure in an amount exceeding fifty-one (51) percent of the replacement cost of the advertising sign display surface or fifty-one (51) percent of the replacement cost of the advertising sign structure at the time of loss, as determined by the zoning administrator; or
 5. Maintained through replacement of structural elements.
 - b. Any nonconforming advertising sign shall be immediately removed from the Downtown Special Sign District at the cost of the owner if:
 1. It is deemed unsafe or hazardous by the Zoning Administrator; or
 2. The advertising sign face or advertising sign structure sustains damage in an amount exceeding fifty-one (51) percent of the replacement cost of the advertising sign display surface or advertising sign structure at the time of loss; or
 3. Use of such advertising sign has been discontinued for a period of three (3) consecutive months.
- (d) ~~The zoning administrator shall enforce the provisions of this sign plan as a supplement to Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 66.~~ [Redundant, since this is part of Chapter 64.] Whenever a permit for an advertising sign in the Downtown Special Sign District is required under a provisions of ~~Saint Paul Legislative Code Chapter 646~~, such permit shall not be issued unless the plans for the sign have been approved by the zoning administrator as in conformance with this sign plan. All building permit applications for advertising signs in the Special Sign District shall be submitted to the zoning administrator for review and approval. A fee to cover the costs of the review shall be established by resolution of the city council. All plans submitted for zoning administrator approval shall be of sufficient detail to demonstrate that the proposed sign complies with the provision of this sign plan. The zoning administrator shall review the plans

within thirty (30) days and notify both the applicant and the department of license, inspections and environmental protection of any decision to approve or disapprove the plans. Written reasons for denial shall be prepared by the zoning administrator and shall accompany any decision to disapprove the plans. Any decision by the zoning administrator may be appealed to the planning commission as provided in **Chapter 61, Administration and Enforcement Saint Paul Legislative Code Section 66.408(a)**.

(C.F. No. 01-49, § 1, 4-18-01)

Editor's note—C.F. No. 01-49, § 1, adopted April 18, 2001, amended the Code by adding a new § 66.2169. In order to prevent duplication of section numbers, the provisions have been renumbered as § 66.2169.7 at the discretion of the editor.